

NEWS RELEASE

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COMPUTER-BASED GED TESTING LAUNCHED IN NEBRASKA

Adults taking the GED test in Lincoln, Hastings and Norfolk will have a new option beginning June 25 – GED testing on computers. The remaining 28 Nebraska testing centers will offer computerized GED testing no later than January.

Southeast Community College in Lincoln, Central Community College in Hastings and Northeast Community College in Norfolk will partner with GED Testing Service to launch computerized GED testing. Online registration and scheduling will begin on June 18th.

"Computerized testing expands access to the GED tests and that will help more adults find jobs, earn better paying jobs or enter postsecondary education programs," said Vicki Bauer, state director for adult education.

The computerized GED test will have the same test content currently offered on paper. However, it will provide an array of new benefits for Nebraska test-takers. Some of the initial benefits include:

- One-stop online registration and scheduling
- Flexible testing appointments for test-takers
- Instant test scores on four of five content areas
- Enhanced test security

"Adults will find it easier to schedule a computerized GED test because the testing schedule will be more flexible," Bauer said. Previously, adults could only take the test at the times offered by the institutions. While GED testing will be more accessible, Bauer said, adults are still encouraged to enroll in adult education classes to ensure they are prepared to succeed on the test. GED tests will continue to be available on paper through December 2013, but all GED testing will be computerized beginning in 2014.

The GED test – whether on paper or computer – must be taken in-person at an official GED testing center.

Computerized GED testing will cost \$24 for each content area. State and community agencies, organizations as well as families may purchase vouchers to help individuals cover the costs.

For information about GED testing and/or free adult education classes, Nebraskans may call toll free, 1-877-EARN GED (1-877-327-6433). To register for the test on computer, visit

 $\underline{www.GEDtestingservice.com}. \ \ For more information about adult education or the GED testing program, \\ visit: \underline{www.education.ne.gov/ADED/index.html} \ .$